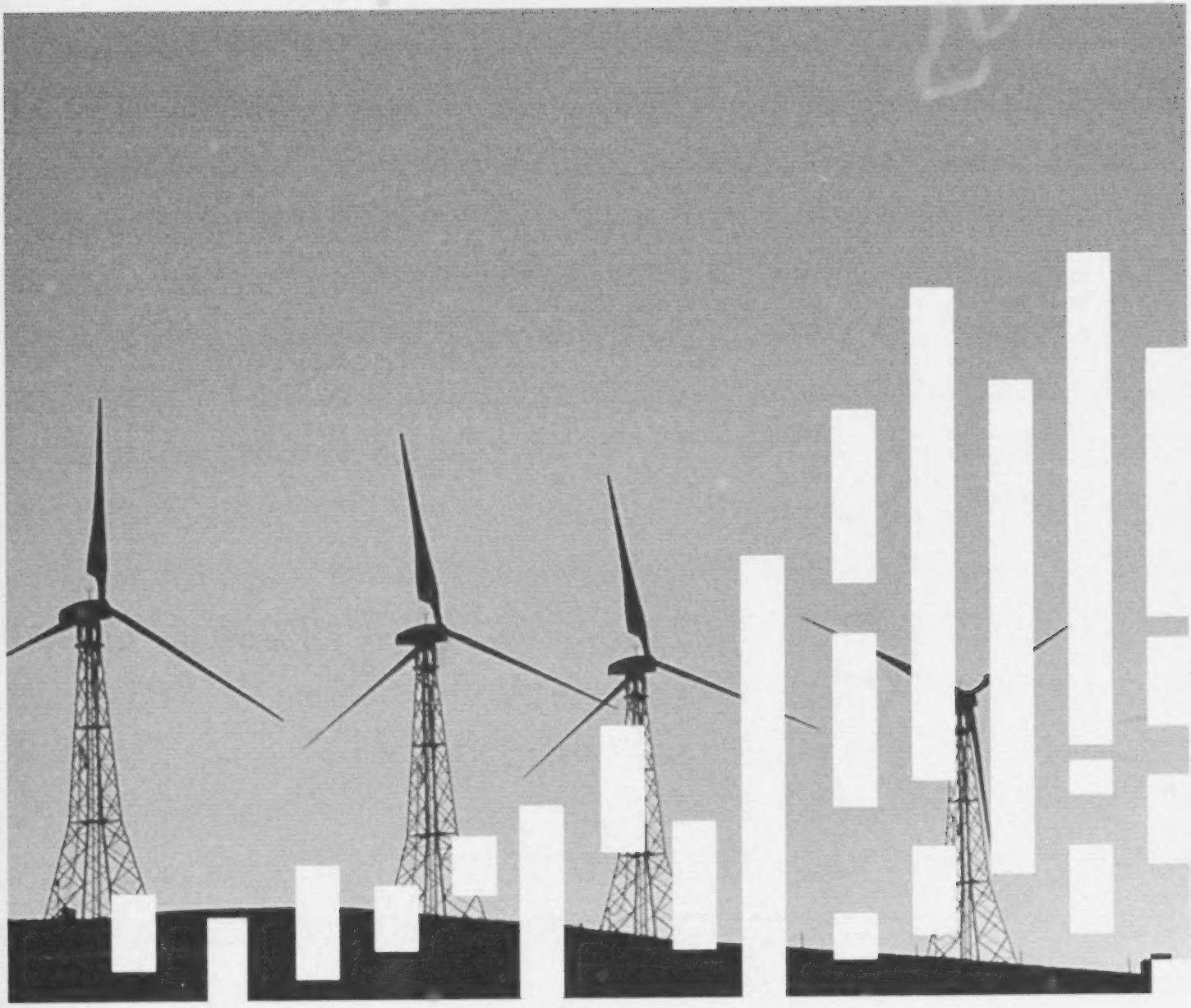


2015 Annual Alberta

Labour Market Review

Employment . Unemployment . Economic Regions

Migration . Indigenous People . Industries

Occupations . Education . Demographics

Alberta

Government

Employment

Despite the economic downturn, Alberta had the second highest employment growth rate in the country

Alberta's employment in 2015 was 26,500 higher than in 2014. The province's total employment rose to 2,301,100 in 2015, a 1.2% increase from the level in 2014. Alberta had the second highest annual growth rate of employment, tied with British Columbia, at 2.2% in 2015 (See Figure 1). Nationally, employment in Canada rose 0.8% in 2015.

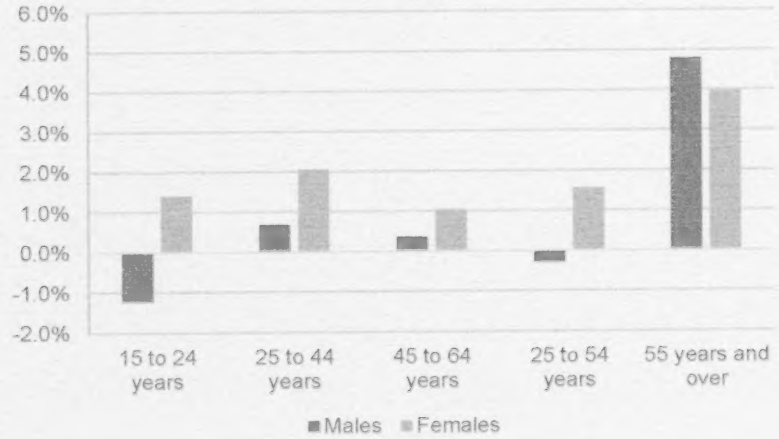
Employment for men in Alberta grew by 0.5% or 6,600, and for women, it rose by 2.0% or 20,100 in 2015. Men and women in Alberta aged 55 years and older accounted for the largest share of employment increase at 4.8% and 4.0% in 2015, respectively. Per cent change in employment for those aged 55 years and older was markedly higher than other age ranges (See Figure 2).

In 2015, full time employment in Alberta increased by 12,300 and part-time employment increased by 14,200. Albertans aged 15 to 24 saw a decrease in full-time employment of 4.4%, with a similar increase in part-time employment of 4.4%.

Figure 1
Provincial and National Employment, 2015

Province	Employment	Change from 2014	Per cent change
Alberta	2,301,100	26,500	1.2%
Canada	17,946,600	144,400	0.8%
Newfoundland and Labrador	236,200	-2,400	-1.0%
Prince Edward Island	73,200	-800	-1.1%
Nova Scotia	448,100	500	0.1%
New Brunswick	351,800	-2,100	-0.6%
Quebec	4,097,000	37,300	0.9%
Ontario	6,923,200	45,300	0.7%
Manitoba	636,200	9,700	1.5%
Saskatchewan	573,700	2,800	0.5%
British Columbia	2,306,200	27,800	1.2%

Figure 2
Per Cent Change in Employment, 2014-2015



Employment rate in Alberta was the highest in Canada

Employment in Alberta grew for the fourth consecutive year after declining in 2011 (See Figure 3). Annual average employment rose by 48,400 in 2014 and by 26,500 in 2015 (See Figure 4).

The employment rates for men and women in Alberta were 74.2% and 62.9% respectively, the highest among all provinces in 2015. The national employment rate was 65.3% for men and 57.4% for women.

In 2015, Alberta's employment rate of 68.6% continued to be the highest among all provinces. The Canadian employment rate was 61.3%. Alberta's rate of 68.6% was 0.7 percentage points lower than the year before, and the lowest rate in the last five years (See Figure 5).

Figure 3
Alberta Annual Average Employment, 2011-2015

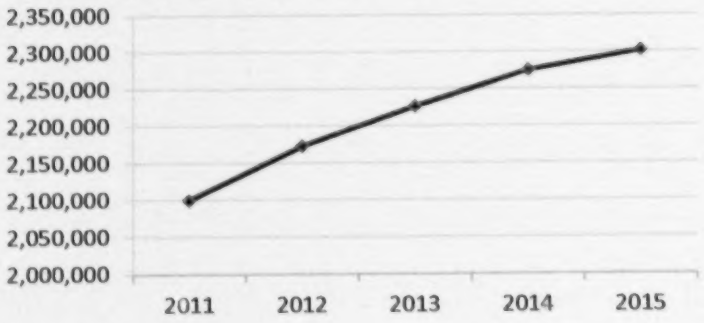


Figure 4
Alberta Annual Average Growth in Employment, 2011-2015

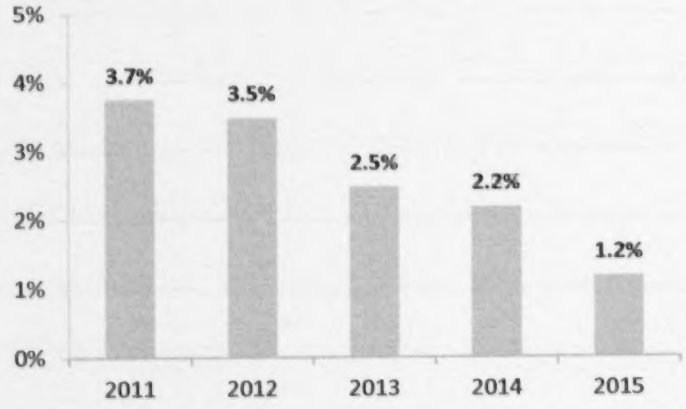


Figure 5
Alberta and Canada Employment Rates, 2011-2015

Unemployment

Alberta had the third lowest unemployment rate in the country

Alberta's unemployment rate rose 1.3 percentage points to 6.0%, from 4.7% in 2015 (See Figure 6). This was the third lowest of the 10 provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 5.0% and Manitoba's 5.6% (See Figure 7). The unemployment rate for Alberta men increased to 6.0% from 4.7% in 2014, while the unemployment rate for Alberta women increased to 5.6% from 4.9% in 2014.

The number of unemployed people in Alberta increased by 36,300 between 2014 and 2015. Male unemployment increased by 27,800 and for females, increased by 8,600 in 2015, compared to the year before.

The unemployment rate for Alberta youth increased from 9.5% to 10.7% in 2015, the second lowest in all provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 9.8%. In 2015, Alberta's female youth unemployment rate of 9.2% was lower than the male youth rate of 12.0%.

Figure 6

Alberta and Canada Unemployment Rates, 2011-2015

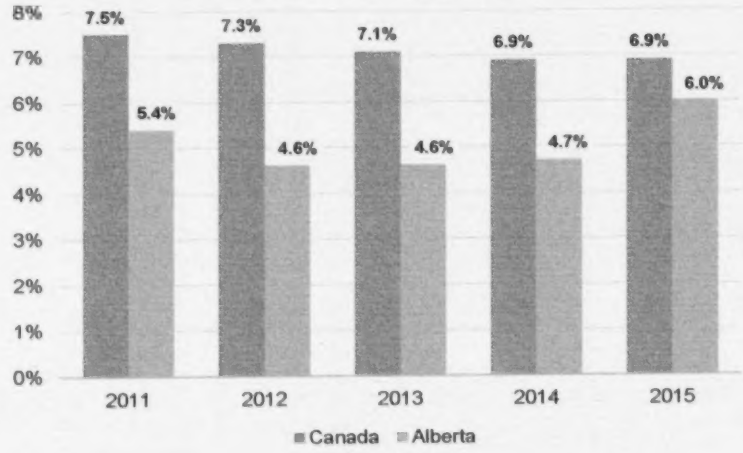
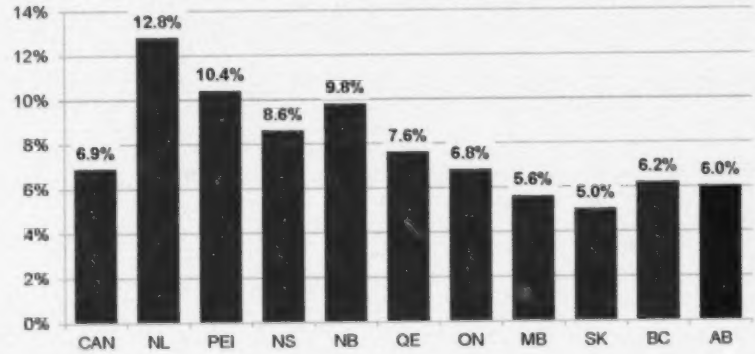


Figure 7

Provincial and National Unemployment Rates, 2015



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Economic Regions

The unemployment rate rose in all seven economic regions

The unemployment rate rose in Edmonton economic region by 0.9 percentage points, the lowest increase of the seven regions (See Figure 8). Total employment rose in three regions: Calgary, by 18,900; Edmonton, by 14,800; Lethbridge-Medicine Hat, by 6,200.

At 4.5%, the unemployment rate in the Camrose-Drumheller region was the lowest of the seven regions in 2015 (See Figure 9). The Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake region had the highest unemployment rate at 7.9%, followed by the Calgary region at 6.3%. In 2015, the unemployment rate increased the most in the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake region, by 3.2 percentage points (See Figure 9).

Figure 8

Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary Economic Regions, Unemployment Rates in 2011-2015

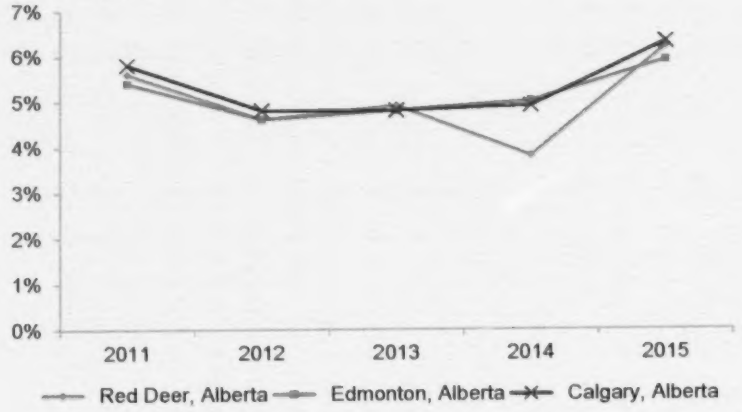
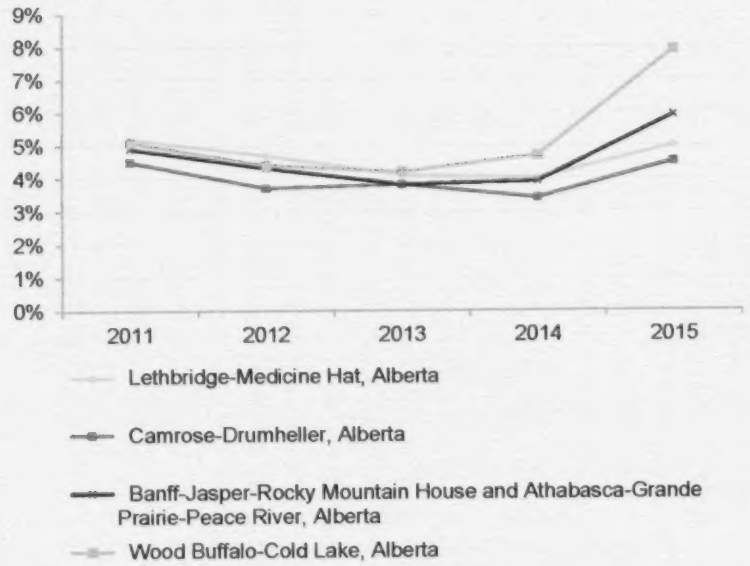


Figure 9

Economic Regions for the Rest of Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2011-2015



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Migration

In-migration to Alberta outnumbered out-migration

In 2015, Alberta saw a fall in the number of interprovincial in-migrants, temporary foreign workers and a rise in the number of landed immigrants compared to the year before. The number of net interprovincial migrants to Alberta from other provinces was 17,780 in 2015 (See Figure 10).

The number of immigrants who landed in Alberta in 2015 was 4,645 higher than the year before (See Figure 11). In 2015 there were 17,780 net provincial migrants and 47,182 landed immigrants. In 2015, there were 10,464 temporary foreign workers who came to Alberta.

Figure 10

Alberta Interprovincial Migration, 2012-2015[3]

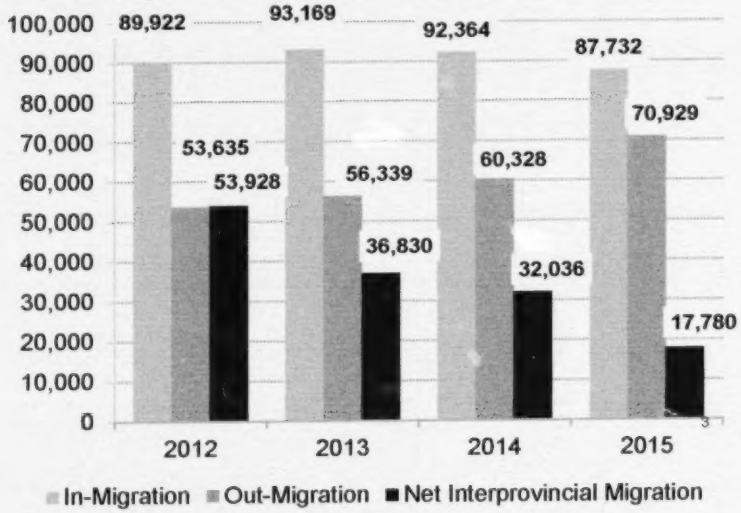
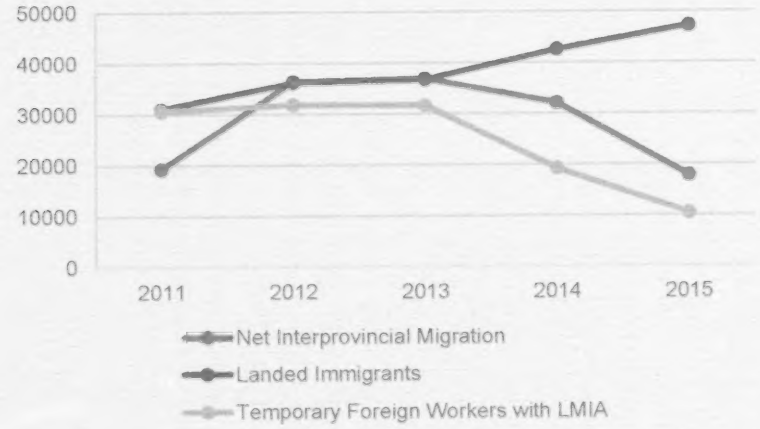


Figure 11

Alberta Landed Immigrants, Net Interprovincial Migrants and Temporary Foreign Workers, 2011-2015



Source: Statistics Canada; Citizenship and Immigration Canada
LMIA denotes Labour Market Impact Assessment

Indigenous People

Alberta's Indigenous People living off-reserve had the second highest employment rate in the country

In 2015, the employment rate for Alberta Indigenous People living off-reserve was 62.4%, the second highest employment rate of all off-reserve Indigenous People among the 10 provinces, after Prince Edward Island at 69.6%. The average employment rate for Indigenous People living off-reserve in Canada was 55.2% in 2015.

Employment for off-reserve Indigenous People in Alberta decreased by 2.6% or 2,500 in 2015. This was the second largest decrease among the 10 provinces, ahead of Quebec at 3,400 or 7.3%. Employment for off-reserve Indigenous People in Canada fell by 0.2%.

More than 70% of all employed off-reserve Indigenous People worked in three economic regions in Alberta: 58.6% in Calgary and Edmonton, and 16.1% in the Banff, Jasper, Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca, Grande Prairie, Peace River region (See Figure 12).

Between 2014 and 2015, the Edmonton and Camrose, Drumheller regions saw the largest employment gains in Alberta for Indigenous people living off-reserve of 3,200 and 1,300 respectively (See Figure 13).

Approximately 37% of Indigenous People living off-reserve in Alberta were employed in three industries in 2015: Construction, 16.6%; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, 10.0%; and Retail Trade, 10.0%.

Figure 12
Alberta Indigenous People Living Off-Reserve, Employment by Economic Region, 2015

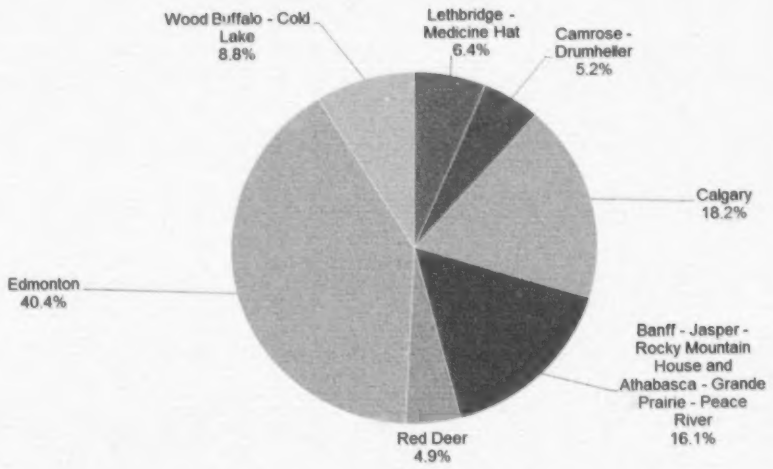
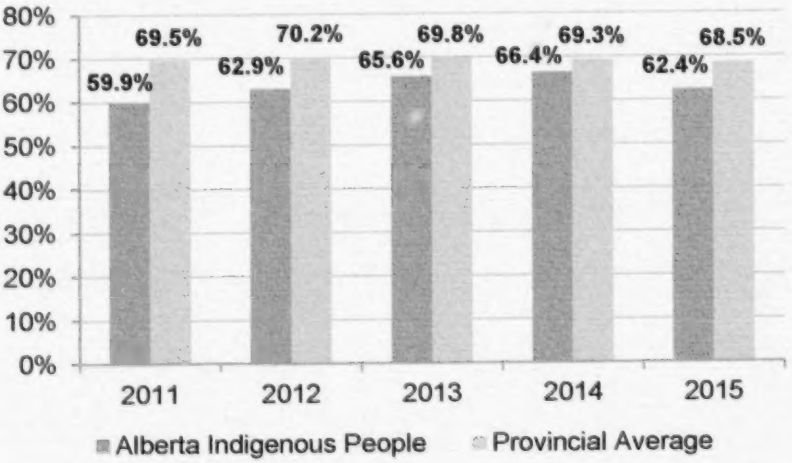


Figure 13
Alberta Indigenous People Living Off-Reserve, Employment Rates, 2011-2015



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Industries

Health Care and Social Assistance Industry had the largest gain in employment

The Health Care and Social Assistance industry had the largest increase in employment in 2015, rising by 23,500. This increase accounted for 88.7% of all employment gains in Alberta in 2015. Educational Services had the second largest employment increase of 13,300, which represents 50.2% of all the provincial gains in employment in 2015. Employment in the Transportation and Warehousing industry rose by 9,400, accounting for 35.5% of all employment increases in the province (See Figure 14).

Employment was lower in six industries in 2015: Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, down 20,000; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, down 11,100; Retail Trade, down 5,100; Other Services[4], down 4,600; Manufacturing, down 4,600; and Finance and Insurance, down 2,500.

The three industries with the lowest unemployment rate in 2014 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 1.5%; Finance, Insurance, 2.2%; and Educational Services, 3.6%.

Figure 14

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Industry, 2015

Industry Group	2015 Employment	Change from 2014	Unemployment Rate
Health Care and Social Assistance	264,100	23,500	1.5%
Construction	259,900	3,500	6.8%
Retail Trade	229,300	-5,100	4.8%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	173,200	-11,100	4.5%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	155,300	-20,000	7.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	153,500	3,500	5.1%
Manufacturing	139,900	-4,600	5.4%
Transportation and Warehousing	139,300	9,400	3.9%
Educational Services	138,000	13,300	3.6%
Other Services[4]	117,500	-4,600	4.2%
Wholesale Trade	89,500	3,400	5.7%
Business, Building and Other Support Services	82,300	3,200	5.4%
Information, Culture and Recreation	74,900	2,400	4.0%
Finance and Insurance	65,900	-2,500	2.2%
Agriculture	62,800	2,200	*
Real Estate and Leasing	37,600	1,300	4.8%
Utilities	20,200	1,900	*
Forestry and Logging with Support Activities	3,600	600	*

[4]This sector comprises establishments not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services, and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.

**Insufficient Data*

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Occupations

Health occupations had the largest employment gain and the lowest unemployment rate

In 2015, employment rose for six of the 10 occupational groups in Alberta. Health occupations had the biggest increase of 25,600, followed by Natural and Applied Sciences and related occupations with an increase of 11,300 (See Figure 15).

The four occupational groups with decline in employment in 2015 were: occupations unique to primary industry, down 11,500; occupations in Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport, 7,200, Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations, down 1,200, and Sales and Service Occupations, down 800.

All occupational groups had unemployment rates below 6.0%, except for Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations at 6.4%. Two of the ten occupational groups had unemployment rates that were less than 3.0%: Health occupations, 1.1%; and Management occupations, 1.7%.

Figure 15
Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Occupation, 2015

Occupations	2015 Employment	Change from 2014	Unemployment Rate
Management	185,800	3,900	1.7%
Business, Finance and Administrative	379,100	2,200	4.0%
Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations	191,500	11,300	4.8%
Health	160,700	25,600	1.1%
Social Science, Education, Government Service, and Religion	172,600	2,900	3.1%
Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport	51,200	-7,200	4.3%
Sales and Service	522,400	-800	4.8%
Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations	446,900	-1,200	6.4%
Unique to Primary Industry[5]	124,600	-11,500	5.7%
Unique to Processing, Manufacturing, and Utilities	66,300	1,300	5.4%

**Insufficient data*
[5] Some examples of occupations included in this group are: nursery greenhouse workers, landscaping and ground maintenance labourers, underground production and development miners, chain saw and skidder operators, farmers and farm managers, logging and forestry labourers, and fishing vessel deckhands.
Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Education

The proportion of Alberta's labour force with diplomas or degrees continues to rise

The proportion of Alberta's labour force who have attained a diploma, certificate or degree as highest level of education went up from 86.9% in 2011 to 88.6% in 2015 (See Figure 16).

Between 2011 and 2015, those in Alberta's labour force who had attained a high school diploma as highest level of education increased by 9% or 46,600. This group comprised just under a quarter or 23.1% of Alberta's labour force in 2015.

Those in Alberta's labour force who had attained a post-secondary certificate, trade certificate, or diploma as their highest level of education rose by 69,200 or 43.2% between 2011 and 2015. In 2015, this group made up 33.8% of Alberta's labour force. Alberta's labour force that had some post-secondary and a high school diploma as the highest level of education fell by 30,800 or 20.3% over the 2011 to 2015 period. This group made up 6.8% of the Alberta labour force in 2011, and by 2015, it was 4.9%.

In 2015, 26.7% of Alberta's labour force had a bachelor's or graduate degree as highest level of education, which is higher than in 2011 at 22.4%. Of these, 51.6% were women in 2011.In 2015, women made up 53.7% of Alberta's labour force with a bachelor's degree or a graduate degree.

Figure 16

Alberta Labour Force Educational Attainment Trends, 2011-2015

Educational Level	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
No degree, certificate or diploma	13.1%	12.7%	12.0%	11.7%	11.4%
High school diploma	23.4%	24.0%	24.1%	23.7%	23.1%
High school diploma, with some post-secondary	6.8%	6.0%	6.1%	5.6%	4.9%
Trade certificate	14.2%	14.4%	14.5%	13.4%	12.9%
College diploma	17.5%	17.7%	17.5%	17.6%	17.9%
Certificate or diploma below bachelor's degree	2.6%	2.4%	2.0%	2.4%	3.0%
Bachelor's degree	16.3%	16.4%	17.2%	18.0%	18.9%
Graduate degree	6.1%	6.4%	6.5%	7.6%	7.8%

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Demographics

Employment rose for Alberta's youth and seniors

Employment in 2015, compared to 2014, was higher for three of four age groups (See Figure 17). Of the four age groups, those aged 25 to 44 had the largest employment increase of 13,700 or 1.3%. Employment grew by 7,500 or 9.1%. For Albertans 65 years and over, the highest employment growth rate among the four age groups. Employment for youth 15 to 24 years of age decreased by 100 or 0.03% in 2015 compared to 2014.

The employment rate for youth 15 to 24 years of age rose 0.2 percentage points in 2015 compared to 2014 (See Figure 18). The Alberta youth employment rate of 61.2% was 5.4 percentage points above the Canadian youth average. Alberta's youth employment rate was the second highest among the 10 provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 61.5%.

The employment rate for Albertans aged 25 to 44 was 82.5% in 2015, the third highest among the 10 provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 84.5%, and Manitoba's rate of 83.3%. The employment rate for Canadians in this age group was 81.4%. At 19.4%, Albertans aged 65 years and over had the highest employment rate among their provincial counterparts. The national employment rate for the same age group was 12.8% in 2015.

Figure 17
Alberta Employment by Age Groups, 2014-2015

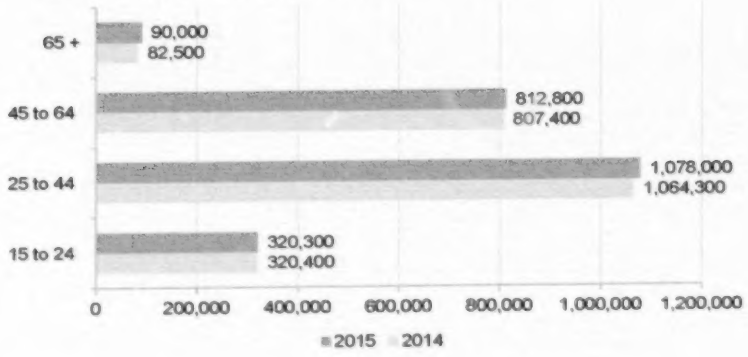
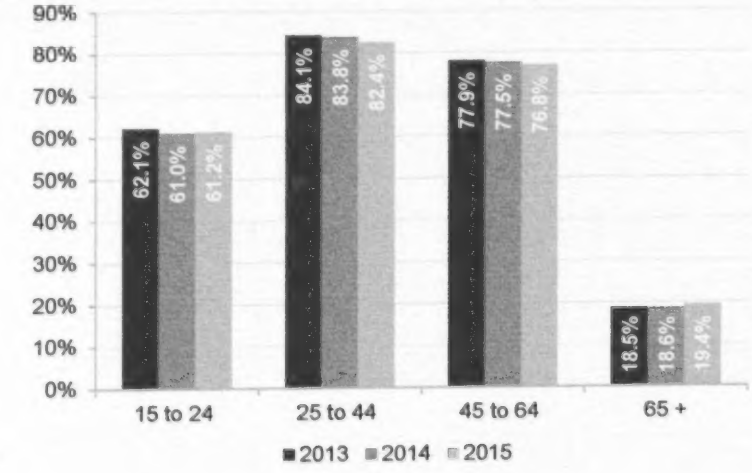


Figure 18
Alberta Employment Rates by Age Groups, 2013-2015



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

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Long distance: 1.800.661.3753

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